

# NEBRASKA HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM



DEPARTMENT OF SERVICES • DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSURE

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND SUPPORT

May 7, 2007

STATE OF NEBRASKA

DAVE HEINEMAN, GOVERNOR

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FCC-MAILROOM

Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: WC Docket No. 02-60 Rural Health Care Mechanism Pilot Program

Dear Office of the Secretary:

The health care system in Nebraska is emerging as a partner in developing collaborations within the National Health Care System. Nebraskans are beginning to see new possibilities that exist to care for people in our towns or regions but results won't come through individual effort. Success will come in the sum of our parts, the partnerships and alliances that we create in rural access to deliver quality health care

Technology combined with partnerships is the key to strengthening rural health care. Our combined efforts provide the best platform for doctors, researchers, administrators, and health practitioners to learn how they can affect the collaborations in rural and urban areas.

Health Care often drives technology and telehealth models present the resources to bridge the rural-urban divide, everything from teledentistry to telepediatrics to telepsychiatry and more is on the horizon. Technology could become a major support for health care providers in rural areas.

As Director of the Nebraska Health and Human Services System's Office of Rural Health I believe the Rural Nebraska Healthcare Network (RNHN) is a prime candidate for funding through the FCC's Rural Health Care Pilot Program.

Creating collaborative efforts is a long and arduous process, the RNHN has been on this journey for over a decade. This Pilot Program would enhance RNHN efforts to help expand the telehealth model within our state. This Rural Health Care funding opportunity. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Dennis Berens  
Director  
Nebraska Health and Human Services System's Office of Rural Health

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES REGULATION AND LICENSURE

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